IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for establishing a ~~Voice~~ voice over ~~Internet Protocol (VoIP)~~ internet protocol conference call by joining a first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station in a communication between a plurality of communication stations, wherein ~~at least~~ one of the plurality of communication stations is a second ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station in a private network and ~~said~~ the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station is in the private network, the method comprising:

    receiving an indication at a ~~Voice Conference Server (VCS)~~ voice conference server from the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station in the private network for joining one of a plurality of existing conversations on ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server between the plurality of communication stations, wherein the voice conference server is located at an access point serving the first voice over internet protocol station, wherein ~~said~~ the plurality of existing conversations comprises ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol calls and each one of ~~said~~ the plurality of existing conversations is on a different connection;

    setting up a connection between ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server and ~~said~~ the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station;

    receiving an identification of ~~said~~ the one of ~~said~~ the plurality of existing conversations on ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server via a code number entered by ~~said~~ the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station corresponding to the second ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station after ~~said~~ the connection between ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server and ~~said~~ the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station is set up, wherein ~~said~~ the one of ~~said~~ the plurality of existing conversations is between the second ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station in the private network and a phone in a public network, wherein ~~said VCS~~

the voice conference server is external to ~~said~~ the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station and ~~said~~ the plurality of communication stations;

establishing a ~~Real-Time Transport Protocol (RTP)~~ real-time transport protocol voice path with the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station and ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server; and

managing data packet transmission between the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station and one of the plurality of communication stations via ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~at least~~ one of the plurality of communication stations is a ~~Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN)~~ public switched telephone network phone.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~at least~~ one of the plurality of communication stations is a ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol phone.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the indication comprises a switch signal from the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Canceled)

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising informing the plurality of communication stations of a status of the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the managing data packet transmission comprises mixing data packets from the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station and ~~at least~~ one of the plurality of communication stations.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein ~~said~~ the managing data packet transmission further comprises sending the mixed data packets to ~~at least~~ one of the plurality of communication stations.

10.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the managing data packet transmission comprises mixing data packets from the plurality of communication stations.

11.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein ~~said~~ the managing data packet transmission further comprises sending the mixed data packets to the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

12.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising indicating a busy status on the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

13.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving an on-hook signal from the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving an on-hook signal from at least one of the plurality of communication stations.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol call is disconnected.

16.   (Currently Amended) A device for establishing a ~~Voice~~ voice over ~~Internet Protocol (VoIP)~~ internet protocol conference call by joining a first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station in a communication between a plurality of communication stations, wherein ~~at least~~ one of the plurality of communication stations is a second ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station in a private network

and ~~said~~ the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station is in the private network, the device comprising:

a receiver in a ~~Voice Conference Server (VCS)~~ voice conference server for receiving an indication from the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station in the private network for joining one of a plurality of existing conversations on ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server after setting up a connection between ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server and the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station, wherein the voice conference server is located at an access point serving the first voice over internet protocol station, wherein each one of ~~said~~ the plurality of existing conversations is on a different connection, wherein ~~said~~ the indication comprises a code number entered by ~~said~~ the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station corresponding to the second ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station identifying ~~said~~ the one of ~~said~~ the plurality of existing conversations on ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server, wherein ~~said~~ the one of ~~said~~ the plurality of existing conversations is between the second ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station in the private network and a phone in a public network, wherein ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server is external to ~~said~~ the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station and ~~said~~ the plurality of communication stations;

an apparatus in ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server for setting up a ~~Real-Time Transport Protocol (RTP)~~ real-time transport protocol voice path with the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station in response to the received signal for joining ~~said~~ the call; and,

an ~~RTP~~ real-time transport protocol mixer in ~~said VCS~~ the voice conference server for managing at least two ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol stations and sending the mixed data packets to at least one ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

17.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 further comprising a status monitor for informing a ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol call agent of a status of the first VoIP station.

18.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 wherein at least one of the plurality of communication stations is a ~~Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN)~~ public switched telephone network phone.

19.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 wherein at least one of the plurality of communication stations is a ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol phone.

20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Canceled)

23.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 further comprising informing the plurality of communication stations of a status of the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

24.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 wherein ~~said~~ the managing data packet transmission comprises mixing data packets from the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station and at least one of the plurality of communication stations.

25.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 24 wherein ~~said~~ the managing data packet transmission further comprises sending the mixed data packets to the at least one of the plurality of communication stations.

26.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 wherein ~~said~~ the managing data packet transmission comprises mixing data packets from the plurality of communication stations.

27.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 26 wherein ~~said~~ the managing data packet transmission further comprises sending the mixed data packets to the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

28.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 further comprising indicating a busy status on the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

29.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 further comprising receiving an on-hook signal from the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.

30.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 further comprising receiving an on-hook signal from at least one of the second ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station and the at least one other station.

31.   (Original) The device of claim 30 wherein the call is disconnected.

32.   (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 wherein the indication comprises a switch signal from the first ~~VoIP~~ voice over internet protocol station.